

The Lord of The Sabbath Mark 2:23-28

If you ever want to see religious upstanding people from various sects get into a knock down drag out brawl, here's what you do. Gather them all up into a room and say the word Sabbath, discuss, exit the room crack the door and watch. Oh man. This is kind of what's going on with Jesus here. A Sabbath discussion is being started by these Pharisees and Jesus is right in the middle of it. What is said is not only condemned concerning Sabbath teaching but concerning all our spiritual observances.

I. The Painted Accusation - In this continuing topic of controversy, the Pharisees were quick to pick up on another seeming violation of the Law by Jesus. vss 4 Barage of questions

A. The Blessing of the Sabbath - The Sabbath has its origins at the first week of creation. We know that God rested on the seventh day and sanctified it. In Exodus 20 see that it was sacred as a day of rest Ex 23:12 also of consecration Ex 23:3. A day of Blessing

B. The Band of the Sabbath - I say band because the Sabbath keeping was also a sign of covenant between God & Israel Ex 31:13 Just as a wedding band is a token of

marriage so was the Sabbath to children of Israel.

C. The Burden of the Sabbath - But over centuries that burden became a chain. Like much of O.T. Law, the Sabbath had become covered over in commentaries and expositions, rules, regulations. The Pharisees had developed 39 regulations for proper keeping of sabbath 4 had to do with harvesting. Deut 23:21-25:4 of 39

II. The Perceptive Answer - It is amazing how Jesus answers a question with a question that strikes to the heart of the problem. 15:9, 19, 25, 34

A. A Biblical Problem - Notice "Have ye not read..." This was to the Pharisees that had memorized most of the O.T. Law. Yet with all their O.T. knowledge, they missed the point. They were placing all the weight of argument on the interpretations of men when it is the word of God that has the answer not the traditions of men! Jesus dealt w/ Devil in same fashion in temples as it is written.

B. A Biblical Precedence - Account in 1 Samuel 17 David anointed King, chosen by Saul. His men Hungry came to him and asked for common bread, none was given them bread. Len 24 Clearly wrong

1) Exodus 23:12 Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

2) Leviticus 23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

3) Exodus 31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

4) Deuteronomy 23:24-25 When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel. When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

5) 4 of those 39 rules prohibited these: one, reaping; two, winnowing, which is simply blowing away the chaff of the corn; three, threshing, which is separating out the grain by beating it; and then fourth, preparing a meal. The sabbath itself had become a symbol of a suffocating religious bondage that was squeezing any life that was in these people, and effectively it was robbing them of their joy in God as individuals, as families and as a whole nation.

yet David ate already & went. David not rebuked by God. Here disciples clearly Right (Matt 23) and rebuked by Pharisees. The Priest were far more concerned with themselves of God's ~~and~~ than order of Tabernacle. Pharisees

III. The Plain Application - Jesus in a brief concise sentence summarizes the Biblical priesthood by saying
VS 27

A. The Reason of Blessing - Remember the Pharisees question. The tense in imperfet a language of Question. Jesus response was the Same. Over and Over The Sabbath was made... Some rabbis thought that man was actually made to keep Sabbath. But Jesus refutes that by implying that the Sabbath was never intended to prohibit works of necessity, deeds of mercy, kindness & love & grace. It was for rest worship & enjoy God.

B. The Reversal to Bandage - These legalist pharisees had turned or reversed this blessing into a bandage that was squeezing the life and joy of God out of them. Every spiritual practice we practice should be screened through this. If Bible reading is a burden then it has cease from being the blessing that it ought, our perspective is wrong. Praises, worship

IV. The Preeminent Authority of The the Pinnacle of His authority a breath taking statement

A. The Claim of Christ - ch

affection these Pharisees have been
asking in all this controversy
who do you think you are? Who can
forgive sins. Jesus said vs 28 Word
Lord = owner of Sabbath, One who possesses
and distributes things as he will. This same
word Lord used in OT to refer to God as Creator
Jesus is saying I am originator of Sabbath
& owner who gave it for benefit and you are making
it a burden

B. The Law of Love - To sum

up this whole scene, let us be reminded
that all spiritual exercise and practices
are to the end that we may love and
enjoy God and care for others, and
not to rate ourselves on a spiritual
scale. Our religious practices and spiritual
ordinances are to point us and others to
God. The Sabbath was to help and bless
men not burden them.

In Closing Our Author writes 'The
sabbath was never so sacred as when
it was used to feed the starving men of David, The
Sabbath was never so sacred as when it was
used to help those who needed help. The final arbiter
in the use of things is love not law.